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X.	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/718,845	TONKIN ET AL.	
Notice of Allowability	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Ana M. Fortuna	1723	
The MAILING DATE of this communication application application application application application being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS II herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-8: NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.31. 1. This communication is responsive to 6/26/06.	S (OR REMAINS) CLOSED ir 5) or other appropriate commu RIGHTS. This application is s	this application. If not included unication will be mailed in due course. THIS	
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>30-89</u> .			
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority (a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the: 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have	ve been received.		
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have	• •		
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority d	ocuments have been received	d in this national stage application from the	
International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).			
* Certified copies not received:			
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDON THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE. 4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be subject to the subject of the su	MENT of this application.		
INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gi	ves reason(s) why the oath or	declaration is deficient.	
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") me	ust be submitted.		
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftspe	rson's Patent Drawing Review	(PTO-948) attached	
1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date	_·	•	
(b) including changes required by the attached Examine Paper No./Mail Date	r's Amendment / Comment or	in the Office action of	
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in			
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the dep attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT			
Attachment(s)			
1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)		formal Patent Application (PTO-152)	
2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	-	ımmary (PTO-413), Mail Date	
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB		Amendment/Comment	
Paper No./Mail Date <u>6/26/06.</u> 4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	8. 🛛 Examiner's	Statement of Reasons for Allowance	
or biological material	9. ⊠ Other <u>See (</u>	Continuation Sheet.	

Continuation of Attachment(s) 9. Other: Figure drawings filed on 11/21/03 are approved..

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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 78, line 2, before the term "support" insert - -a- -.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

- 2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: claims 30-89 remain allowed over the prior art of record, as stated on paper of 3/23/06, and over the newly submitted prior art of record of IDS filed on 6/26/06. From the newly added art the best reference is WO 00/28807, which discuss reference US 5,595,662 as having a polyether block copolymer hydrophilic membrane that is distinct from his membrane (see page 2, lines 3-20), which patent is derived from the same parent as the current application, which has an earlier filing dater than the priority document corresponding to the WO 0028807. The later WO reference teaches a pervaporation device including the nonporous hydrophilic membrane, the use in a growing container, e.g to growth a plant seed or in combination with a growing medium is not suggested.
- 3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ana M. Fortuna whose telephone number is (571) 272-1141. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wanda L. Walker can be reached on (571) 272-1151. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Ana M Fortuna
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1723

AF August 8, 2005